1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS							
2	HOUSTON DIVISION							
3	HSTN CHT SIL ET AL. * 4.14-CV-02164							
4	*							
5	V. * 10:09 a.m. to 10:31 a.m. *							
6	BANK SINOPAC, ET AL * MAY 16, 2019							
7	HEARING BEFORE THE HONORABLE LYNN N. HUGHES							
8	Volume 1 of 1 Volume							
9	APPEARANCES							
10								
11	FOR THE DEFENDANTS, OCM FORMOSA STRAIT HOLDINGS, LTD.; OAKTREE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L.P.; AND WILMINGTON TRUST,							
12	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION:							
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14								
15								
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19	Court Reporter: Laura Wells, RPR, RMR, CRR							
20	515 Rusk Street, Suite 8004 Houston, Texas 77002							
21								
22	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography. Transcript produced by computer-assisted transcription.							
23								
24								
25								
	Laura Wells, CRR, RDR							

	1	PROCEEDINGS				
	2	THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated.				
	3	Mr. Laufer, have you had any conversations with is				
	4	Cicack still the lead lawyer?				
10:09:40	5	MR. LAUFER: Good morning, Your Honor. No, I				
	6	have not had any contact with the lawyers for Mr. Su, at				
	7	least in the last couple of years.				
	8	THE COURT: I'm trying to weed out all the ones				
	9	that say terminated and the ones that don't. Shemano from				
10:10:19	10	Los Angeles?				
	11	MR. LAUFER: I don't think so. I think the				
	12	lawyers who are currently on the case are the only lawyers				
	13	who are currently on the case and the ones who filed the				
	14	motion to withdraw I think either last week or				
10:10:28	15	actually, I think it was this week.				
	16	THE COURT: Three days ago.				
	17	MR. LAUFER: Yeah. My understanding is that the				
	18	other ones are off the case, and I believe they have been				
	19	terminated.				
10:10:39	20	THE COURT: And one of the current ones is				
	21	Cicack?				
	22	MR. LAUFER: I believe that's correct; but again,				
	23	I can't attest, obviously, to the state of Mr. Su's				
	24	relationships with any of these lawyers.				
10:10:58	25	THE COURT: I think we ought to rely on who wants				
		Laura Wells, CRR, RDR				

	1	to withdraw. He is with Robins Kaplan. And it may just					
	2	be an error, but I see no Robins Kaplan that has made ar					
	3	appearance to the point it got on the docket sheet.					
	4	MR. LAUFER: They may have just filed some					
10:12:31	5	submission at some point which got them on the docket. I					
	6 am not exactly sure.						
	THE COURT: Well, obviously, Kaplan thinks he						
	did.						
	9	MR. LAUFER: Yes. There is no question that at					
10:12:43	10	some point they were representing Mr. Su					
	11	THE COURT: Yes.					
	12	MR. LAUFER: but I actually, I don't thin					
	13	I had ever any direct contact with that law firm.					
	14	THE COURT: But according to the docket sheet,					
10:12:51 15 there are several who once were representing him.		there are several who once were representing him. A lot					
of them say "terminated," which is what you do when							
	17 somebody does this and gets it granted.						
	18	MR. LAUFER: That's correct, Your Honor.					
	19	(Sotto voce discussion with the Court and law clerk.)					
10:14:23	20	THE COURT: Get him on the phone, please.					
	21	THE LAW CLERK: Yes, sir.					
	22	THE COURT: Go right here. We will put him on					
	23	speakerphone, and we will listen to it all.					
	24	MR. LAUFER: Very good.					
10:14:59	25	THE COURT: Are you from out of town?					

	1	MR. LAUFER: I am, Your Honor. I'm from New				
	2	York. I'm sorry about that.				
	3	THE COURT: You know, we have all these				
	4	appearances and getting pro hac vice or you have to belong				
10:15:09	5	and we make you go to a seminar where you have to listen				
	6					
	7 that out-of-state lawyers are not 8 THE LAW CLERK: It went to their voicemail for					
	8	THE LAW CLERK: It went to their voicemail for				
	9 the firm.					
10:15:38	10	THE COURT: It went to his voicemail?				
	11	THE LAW CLERK: Yes, sir, to the firm.				
THE COURT: Well, call him back and tell						
	13	the voicemail says leave a message, and I will.				
	14	THE LAW CLERK: Yes, sir.				
(Connected to voice messaging for Robins Kap						
	16	THE COURT: She said stay on the line and wait				
17 for somebody.						
	18	THE LAW CLERK: Until the tone.				
	19	THE COURT: Oh, I couldn't hear that. Try that				
10:16:26	10:16:26 20 again.					
	21	THE LAW CLERK: One more time, yes, sir.				
	22	(Connected to voice messaging for Robins Kaplan.)				
	23	THE COURT: This is Lynn Hughes in Houston. I'm				
	24	calling for Scott Gautier, who was supposed to be at a				
10:17:04	hearing in this court 18 minutes ago. I have the firm					

motion to withdraw, but it has not been granted or denied. 1 2 He was obliged to appear. 3 COMPUTER-GENERATED VOICE: To send this message, press pound or hang up. To play it -- your message has 4 5 been sent. If you would like to try another extension, 10:17:29 6 you may do so now. Good-bye. 7 THE COURT: Bye. 8 MR. LAUFER: I think he will have gotten the 9 message from the first part of the message. THE COURT: I called, I think it was, American 10 10:17:58 11 Express; and I went through about 12 questions and answers 12 from a nice machine. And then it said, If you want to 13 speak to someone else or address something further, we 14 will turn you over to our automated system. I hadn't been talking to Marilyn Monroe. Now come on. 15 10:18:24 16 I think people underestimate the value of human 17 contact. Because if when they call their lawyer and they 18 get Siri, that may be a signal to them of the kind of 19 warm, close relationship they are going to have with 20 counsel. 10:18:49 21 I called the CEO of Marathon Oil Company, which is a 22 fairly high job; and they had one of these if you want to 23 reach somebody, push the first four or three letters of 24 their last name. And I did, and he answered the phone. I 25 assume there are times when he lets somebody else do it 10:19:18

	1	when he is not there.			
	2	MR. LAUFER: That's impressive.			
	3	THE COURT: That's a man who pays attention to			
	4	detail.			
10:19:27	5	MR. LAUFER: Sure.			
	THE COURT: Tell me what you think is left				
	7	besides Su's failure of his claim.			
	8	MR. LAUFER: Sure. So as Your Honor is aware,			
	9	the Court granted our motion to dismiss some months ago.			
10:19:46	10	So Mr. Su's claims are now gone.			
	The only claims that our clients have pending are two				
	12 summary judgment motions. One is pending in Civil				
	13	Number 14-2165 at Docket Entry 94, and the other one is in			
	14	Civil Number 14-2166 at Docket Entry 80. They are			
THE COURT: Is that what we have?		THE COURT: Is that what we have?			
	THE LAW CLERK: Yes, sir.				
	17	MR. LAUFER: They are materially the same. I			
	18	think Your Honor is familiar with the facts of the case,			
	19	but I can just give you a very, very brief background.			
10:20:18	20	THE COURT: Way too familiar.			
	21	MR. LAUFER: I'm sure you are. So the short of			
	22	it is that Mr. Su was at one point a high-flying shipping			
	23	magnet. He, through various companies that he set up in			
	24	Asia, took out loans from a syndicate of lenders to			
10:20:33	25	finance the construction of five shipping vessels, four of			
	J				

which are at issue in these consolidated cases. 1 Those companies then defaulted on the loans. Mr. Su 2 3 personally quaranteed all of those loans in valid enforceable quarantees. So once there was a default by 4 5 the companies that he had set up, he was personally on the 10:20:53 line. 6 7 The ships were then sold in bankruptcy proceedings 8 before Judge Isqur in the Southern District Bankruptcy Court a few years ago. Those sales occurred, and the 9 third parties now have the ships. 10 10:21:07 11 And so the delta between the value of the loans and 12 the amount of money that was recouped in those sales is 13 what our client, Wilmington Trust, is seeking by way of 14 its counterclaims. We filed a motion for summary judgment or these two motions for summary judgment in April of 15 10:21:23 16 2015, and I think they are fairly straightforward. 17 As I said, Mr. Su personally quaranteed the loans for 18 the vessels. There is no dispute about that. There is no 19 dispute that the guarantees are valid and binding and 20 legally enforceable; and there is no dispute that the 10:21:39 21 borrowers, the companies that he set up to own and operate 22 these shipping vessels, have defaulted. 23 Demand was made on Mr. Su pursuant to the notice 24 procedures that were set out in the facility agreement and 25 the accompanying quarantees that he executed. 10:21:56

And in addition, as we pointed out in our papers, 1 2 before the ships were sold there was a proceeding in 3 Taiwan which resulted in the issuance by a Taiwanese court of what is called, in that jurisdiction, a payment order, 4 which is essentially a judgment or a writ of execution. 5 10:22:11 And then later, after there was no objection to the 6 7 payment order, there was a final certificate issued, 8 basically a statement by the Taiwanese court saying that 9 these amounts are due and payable now. We have submitted evidence in support of our motions. 10 10:22:27 We have submitted an affidavit from Joshua James, who is a 11 12 professional with Wilmington Trust, attesting to all of the facts, and then some, that I have just laid out. 13 14 We have also submitted an affidavit from a Taiwanese legal practitioner, James Wang, who has explained what the 15 10:22:45 16 elements of a quarantee claim are under Taiwanese law. 17 Not surprisingly, they are essentially the same as what 18 you would expect. You have an obligation to pay, a demand 19 is made, he didn't pay, pay the money. 20 THE COURT: I had two lawyers in here one 10:22:56 21 morning, vigorously one trying to enforce the New York 22 choice of law provision and the other wanting to do Texas 23 So after what for me was a long time, say 24 15 minutes, I interrupted them and said, Would either of 25 you illustrate a material difference? 10:23:19

And they looked at me like I was crazy and said, There 1 2 is none. 3 That's a debater's point. MR. LAUFER: Right. Exactly. So that is the 4 5 case here. There is no difference. And Mr. Wang in his 10:23:33 affidavit has also explained the significance of the 6 7 payment order and final certificate that I just described. 8 THE COURT: And that the creditors bought the 9 ships and have a deed to them, he omits in his claim. You can't sue somebody for having bought your ships and then 10 10:24:02 say they didn't buy them. 11 12 MR. LAUFER: That's right, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: That is called an inconsistency. 14 MR. LAUFER: I would agree wholeheartedly with 15 that sentiment. There has been no evidence submitted by 10:24:16 16 the other side. I should also point out that the papers 17 in opposition were submitted a few law firms ago. So I'm 18 not sure that even the law firms that are currently 19 representing Mr. Su would stand by the assertions that 20 were made. 10:24:29 21 There is no evidence. There is no legal argument. 22 There are just their recitals which, as Your Honor is 23 obviously aware, just doesn't do the trick in opposition 24 to summary judgment. So --25 THE COURT: Not after all that's gone on here. 10:24:38

MR. LAUFER: Very true. So we would ask that 1 2 summary judgment in favor of our client, Wilmington Trust, 3 be entered. With respect to the first motion, which is Civil 4 Number 14-2165, Docket Entry 94, as of the date of the 5 10:24:51 motion, April 20th, 2015, we would ask for a judgment in 6 7 the amount of \$10 million -- \$10,336,413.82 plus pre- and 8 post-judgment interest and fees. 9 And then with respect to the second motion, there are three components. This is Civil Number 14-2166, Docket 10 10:25:15 11 Entry 80, there are three components because there are 12 three ships at issue. One of the amounts is \$15,887,164.45. 13 14 THE COURT: Did you furnish a draft judgment? MR. LAUFER: We have furnished draft orders 15 10:25:37 16 that -- well, yes. They are attached to the papers. I 17 think they just leave blank the interest payments. I 18 can --THE COURT: All right. When are you going home? 19 20 MR. LAUFER: I am leaving today, but if you want 10:25:53 21 we can -- I can rip these out and fill them in and submit 22 them to Your Honor's law clerk. 23 THE COURT: Well --24 MR. LAUFER: Or print them out, whatever is 25 better for you. 10:26:06

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MR. DAWSON: We can file them with the Court,
        1
        2
           Your Honor.
        3
                     THE COURT: It's better if we bring the interest
           and all through today.
        4
        5
                    MR. LAUFER: Yes. Okay. We can do that.
10:26:13
        6
                     THE COURT: Please.
         7
                    MR. LAUFER: Can we just --
        8
                     THE COURT: At whatever the rate is today or is
        9
           it contractual?
       10
                    MR. LAUFER: I believe there is a contractual
10:26:19
       11
           component, and there is also a statutory component. We'll
       12
           clarify that and make sure that it's clear.
       13
                     THE COURT: And you said fees. Is that you?
       14
                    MR. LAUFER:
                                  That would be us, yes. There was
       15
           actually a predecessor lawyer or law firm that was
10:26:32
       16
           representing Wilmington Trust before we took over.
       17
           there may be some additional fees, but I don't think that
       18
           we will -- we can put in a fee application separately if
       19
           our client wishes to pursue that. I'm not sure that they
           will, but I will ask.
       20
10:26:48
       21
                     THE COURT: Well, the sooner the better.
       22
                    MR. LAUFER: Sure. Fair enough.
       23
                     THE COURT: Because I would like to put it all in
       24
           one judgment.
       25
                    MR. LAUFER: Very good. Then we'll do that.
10:26:55
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	1	MR. DAWSON: We're going to do that, but it may				
	2	2 not be today. We can get it to you within a few days				
	3 THE COURT: Yes. I don't mean to disag					
	4	but I'm going to be around for a while.				
10:27:08	5	MR. LAUFER: It sounds like you are inclined to				
	6	6 grant the motion. So that makes us happy.				
	7	THE COURT: Yes. I mean, there is no reason not				
	8	to.				
	9	MR. LAUFER: I agree.				
10:27:19	10	THE COURT: It is open courts are a wonderful				
idea. They have a cost. Did you look at the o						
	12 cases include the patent claim?					
	13	MR. LAUFER: Yes. Enough said.				
	14	THE COURT: You know, the shame is, he is smart.				
10:27:52	He is educated. It's one thing if you get somebody who is					
16 borderline crazy and doesn't understand things						
	have a sufficiency of those but it's really import					
	18	When I was consulting with our newly-won friends in				
	19	Eastern Europe on constitutions and privatization, the				
10:28:22	20	idea that you could file a lawsuit without getting				
	21	approval of any kind from a bureaucrat, it was so far				
	22	outside their world, it was just bizarre. It was like				
	23	letting everybody have a telephone.				
	24	You know, we take that for granted. They correctly				
10:28:50	25	realized that having the oppressed talk to each other is				

	1	not good for the regime. But in this case, he has had his								
	2	fun.								
	3	MR. LAUFER: I agree; and if there is nothing								
	4	further, Your Honor, I thank the Court for its time.								
10:29:15	5	THE COURT: Where are we on the rest of these?								
	6 MR. LAUFER: I believe once judgment is ent									
on Wilmington Trust's counterclaims, at least from										
	8	perspective, I think that should close out the matter.								
	9	THE COURT: That will be good.								
10:29:32	10	MR. LAUFER: Agreed.								
	11	THE COURT: Nice to meet you.								
MR. LAUFER: Same to you, Your Honor. Th										
	13	for having me in your courtroom.								
THE COURT: You are always welcome. Everybout 10:29:45 15 welcome. So in my 34 years here, I think four times have had vigorous court discussions about separate										
					17	admission, and I annoy everybody because I think it's				
					awful.					
	19	I go read that commission in the other room, and it								
10:30:13	20	says a United States District Judge. It says I serve in								
	21	the Southern District, but I work for America. New York								
	22	is part of America.								
	23	MR. LAUFER: No comment, Your Honor.								
	24	THE COURT: I lost my elder daughter to New York								
10:30:36	25	for, I guess, 10 or 12 years. She loved her job. She had								

	1	lots of friends, but she just got tired of all the
	2	inefficiency. So now she works for a French bank from
	3	Houston.
	4	MR. LAUFER: I'm sure that makes you very
10:30:55	5	pleased.
	6	THE COURT: As long as she is happy.
	7	The younger daughter for 24 years has been lost to
	8	Hollywood. But they say if you have three children, one
	9	of them will go into show business.
10:31:10	10	But I'm doing what I want to do. I want them to do
	11	what they are going to do.
	12	MR. LAUFER: That's great.
	13	THE COURT: Mr. Dawson, did I do okay?
	14	MR. DAWSON: Yes, Your Honor. Not that I would
		ever grade your papers, of course, but yes.
		THE COURT: Of course not, except after hours
	17	with people I don't know.
	18	MR. DAWSON: I'm glad I could make a meaningful
	19	contribution today.
10:31:33	20	THE COURT: You did. Not talking.
	21	MR. LAUFER: He did get me to the courthouse,
	22	Your Honor. That was the meaningful contribution.
	23	THE COURT: A native guide is handy to have.
	24	Thank you.
10:31:51	25	(Proceedings concluded at 10:31 a.m.)

Date: May 21, 2019 COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, Laura Wells, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter. \_/s/ Laura Wells\_\_ Laura Wells, CRR, RMR Laura Wells, CRR, RDR

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